



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

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## **Jewel Cave National Monument News Release**

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For Immediate Release

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### **Jewel Cave = Visitors, Money and Jobs for Local Economy**

Custer, South Dakota – A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 103,462 visitors in 2010 spent over \$5.1 million in Jewel Cave National Monument and in communities near the park. That spending supported 88 jobs in the local area.

“The people and the business owners in communities near national parks have always known their economic value,” Superintendent Larry Johnson said. “Jewel Cave is clean, green fuel for the engine that drives our local economy.”

Most of the spending / jobs are related to lodging, food, and beverage service (52 percent) followed by other retail (29 percent), entertainment/amusements (10 percent), gas and local transportation (7 percent) and groceries (2 percent).

The figures are based on \$12 billion of direct spending by 281 million visitors in 394 national parks and nearby communities and are included in an annual, peer-reviewed, visitor spending analysis conducted by Dr. Daniel Stynes of Michigan State University for the National Park Service.

Across the U.S, local visitor spending added a total of \$31 billion to the national economy and supported more than 258,000 jobs, an increase of \$689 million and 11,500 jobs over 2009.

To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/products.cfm#MGM> and click on *Economic Benefits to Local Communities from National Park Visitation and Payroll, 2010*. The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

For more information on how the NPS is working in South Dakota, go to <http://www.nps.gov/southdakota>.



The Cub Scout Belt Loopalooza at Jewel Cave in July attracts scouts and families from surrounding states to the Black Hills.

*About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 395 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).*

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